

Egypt

FBIS 55 (SUB FOR 55)

AS-SADAT DISCUSSES UN MANDATE, CANAL OPENING IN NBC INTERVIEW

J0061009 CAIRO WEGA IN ARABIC 2300 GMT 6 APR 75 JN

(TEXT) CAIRO, 6 APRIL -- PRESIDENT ANWAR AS-SADAT HAS GRANTED AN IMPORTANT INTERVIEW TO NBC IN WHICH HE HAS EXPLAINED WHY U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER FAILED ON HIS LAST ATTEMPT BETWEEN EGYPT AND ISRAEL. PRESIDENT AS-SADAT SPOKE ABOUT THE MEANING OF HIS DECISIONS TO EXTEND UN FORCES MANDATE IN THE SINAI FOR 3 MONTHS AND TO REOPEN THE SUEZ CANAL FOR INTERNATIONAL NAVIGATION IN JUNE.

SPEAKING ABOUT THE AGREEMENT WHICH WAS NOT ACHIEVED, AS-SADAT SAID: EGYPT WANTED THE AGREEMENT AS A TURNING POINT TOWARD PEACE, BUT ISRAEL WANTED IT A POLITICAL AGREEMENT, WHICH WOULD HAVE HARMED THE ESSENCE OF THE ENTIRE PROBLEM, AND THIS IS WHAT WE REJECTED. THE PRESIDENT ADDED THAT ISRAEL FEARS PEACE AND IS

INCAPABLE OF REACHING PEACE BECAUSE IT IS CONFUSED BETWEEN ITS DREAMS FOLLOWING 1967 AND THE COLLAPSE OF ITS THEORY OF SECURITY DURING OCTOBER 1973.

SPEAKING ABOUT THE UN FORCES, THE PRESIDENT SAID THAT HIS DECISION TO EXTEND THE UN MANDATE FOR ANOTHER 3 MONTHS IS LIKE A MESSAGE TO THE UNITED STATES, EUROPE, AND THE WORLD THAT THERE IS A LIMIT TO PATIENCE. THE REOPENING OF THE CANAL IS ANOTHER MESSAGE TO THE WORLD: WE WANT PEACE.

AS FOR USING MISSILES IN A WAR, THE PRESIDENT ASSERTED THAT EGYPT WILL NOT BE THE FIRST TO USE THEM, BUT IF ISRAEL STRIKES AGAINST THE CANAL ZONE, THEN WE WILL STRIKE INTO THE DEPTHS OF ISRAEL.

AS FOR EGYPT'S SUPPORT FOR SYRIA, HE SAID THAT IF SYRIA IS ATTACKED, EGYPT WILL NOT HESITATE TO ENTER THE WAR. IN REGARD TO THE GENEVA CONFERENCE, HE SAID: I EXPECT THE GENEVA CONFERENCE TO ACHIEVE A POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, BUT AS FAR AS ISRAEL'S DEMANDS TO OPEN THE DOORS TO TRADE AND CULTURAL EXCHANGES ARE CONCERNED,

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THIS QUESTION IS FOR THE NEXT GENERATIONS.

WHAT IS REQUIRED FROM THE UNITED STATES? AT THIS TIME, WHEN THE U.S. GOVERNMENT IS REASSESSING ITS POLICY, IT IS ASKED TO ANSWER ONE QUESTION, NAMELY, WILL IT PROTECT ISRAEL INSIDE ITS BORDERS OR WILL IT PROTECT IT WHILE IT IS OCCUPYING THE LANDS OF OTHERS?

PRESIDENT AS-SADAT BEGAN HIS STATEMENT ON THE AGREEMENT WHICH WAS NOT ACHIEVED DURING KISSINGER'S TOUR BY SAYING: WE WERE LOOKING FORWARD TO THIS AGREEMENT AS ANOTHER STAGE OF THE DISENGAGEMENT STAGES. THE ISRAELIS SAW IT AS A POLITICAL AGREEMENT, WHICH WOULD HAVE HARMED THE ESSENCE OF THE ENTIRE PROBLEM WHILE THEY ARE STILL OCCUPYING OUR TERRITORIES. WHAT WOULD THE ROLE OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE BE IF WE DISCUSSED POLITICAL ISSUES AT THIS MOMENT. WE ARE ONLY DEMANDING--AS I TOLD YOU--THAT THE EXPLOSIVE SITUATION HERE BE DEFUSED, AND THIS MEANS THAT ISRAEL SHOULD WITHDRAW A SPECIFIC DISTANCE. EVEN AFTER ITS WITHDRAWAL ON THE EGYPTIAN FRONT, ISRAEL WOULD STILL OCCUPY MORE THAN ONE-THIRD OF SINAI.

QUESTION: THUS, YOU SAW KISSINGER'S MOVEMENTS AS A NEGOTIATING EFFORT AIMED AT A MILITARY DISENGAGEMENT, WHILE THE ISRAELIS SAW IT AS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR A BROADER POLITICAL ARRANGEMENT. WERE THESE THE TWO POINTS OF VIEW AND THE WAY IN WHICH THEY CONTRADICTED?

AS-SADAT: THIS IS ONE POINT. I AGREE WITH YOU THAT IT IS ONE POINT. REGARDING THE OTHER POINT OF MY POINT OF VIEW, THIS WAS THE MOST IMPORTANT THING I DISCUSSED WITH DR KISSINGER. THE PHILOSOPHY BEHIND HIS MOVEMENTS SHOULD HAVE BEEN A TURNING TOWARD PEACE, BECAUSE ISRAEL, AS I SAID AT THE BEGINNING, FEARS PEACE. MORE THAN THAT, IT IS INCAPABLE OF REACHING PEACE. THE ISRAELIS ARE CONFUSED BY THE DREAMS OF THEIR OLD VICTORIES AND THE SECURITY THEORY WHICH THEY INVENTED, AND WHICH WAS PROVEN WRONG ON 6 OCTOBER, ON THE ONE HAND, AND THE PROGRESS TOWARD PEACE. THEY ARE CONFUSED BETWEEN THE TWO ATTITUDES IN SUCH A WAY THAT THEY CANNOT ADOPT ANY DECISION.

PRESIDENT AS-SADAT THEN SPOKE ABOUT THE DECISION TO EXTEND THE MANDATE OF THE UN FORCES, SAYING: WHEN I SAID THAT I WOULD RENEW THE MANDATE OF THE UN FORCES FOR 3 MONTHS, I TRIED THROUGH THIS TO SEND YOU A MESSAGE. IT WAS POSSIBLE FOR ME TO HAVE ANNOUNCED THAT I WOULD NOT RENEW THE MANDATE OF THE UN FORCES, BUT THIS WOULD HAVE CREATED A VERY DANGEROUS SITUATION FOR THE ENTIRE WORLD AND I PREFERRED TO ALLOW ANOTHER 3 MONTHS. THIS IS A MESSAGE TO YOU IN THE UNITED STATES, TO WESTERN EUROPE, AND TO THE WHOLE WORLD: NAMELY, THERE IS A LIMIT TO PATIENCE. THERE IS A LIMIT TO PATIENCE WHEN ISRAEL IS ERRING AND ERRING AS IT IS DOING NOW.

(MORE)

6 APR 1944Z JTC/C